

Line Editing Sample

Description: Also known as a “stylistic” edit, our line editing service includes editing for grammar, punctuation, readability, flow, diction, syntax, awkward phrasing, and minor rewriting and restructuring on the phrasal level. In addition to editing, our line editing service also includes detailed critical review and feedback on the manuscript’s flow, structure, cohesiveness, story arc, character development, plot structure, marketability, and readability, as well as any other issues that may affect the quality of the book.

Note: Upon completion of the editing process, the client will receive two versions of the manuscript: a final “clean” document and a marked-up file (as shown below) that displays all of the changes and revisions made to the manuscript.

--Previous text has been truncated for sample purposes--

I always imagined myself to be famous and successful, so it was no surprise to me when my outer circumstances aligned with the grandeur of my imagination. I spent years ignoring the indifference of my sisters and my mother—they simply didn’t know they were in the presence of greatness—and I lived my life with the full knowledge that it was only a matter of time until there would be a photograph of me beside Robert De Niro or some other A-list star.

I have to admit, as a little girl, I never would have thought that Mr. Bobby De Niro would be the idol that I would choose to represent my grand entrance into greatness, but once I’d had my photo taken with him, he immediately became that symbol to me. Within a week, every brochure we printed and every corner of my website was littered with the photo.

The photo was taken at the opening night of the show—the show that was only possible because of my clout and influence. I put my entire self (and career) into that show; it was to be my masterpiece as a producer. Of course, the photo conveys very little

Editor 12/9/2014 12:16 AM

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Editor 12/15/2014 4:18 PM

Comment [1]:

I wonder if there isn't a way to incorporate a Cinderella allusion in this paragraph. Her story also follows a pattern of early hardship to happiness and (relative) fame. Perhaps you could say something to the effect of, "Cinderella actually had it a bit easier than me. She had a gentle and loving fairy godmother to change her fortunes; I had to wait for a picture with Robert De Niro to change my shoes from sneakers to Manolos." There's also some humor to be mined from the thought of De Niro as a fairy godmother. During our next conversation, let's discuss how to brace your story against the Cinderella fairy tale.

Editor 12/9/2014 12:16 AM

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Editor 12/15/2014 4:19 PM

Comment [2]:

Since this "show" takes on such significance later in the book, consider capitalizing it throughout (i.e., "the Show...") to establish as early as possible that there is something powerful and notorious about it.

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Editor 12/9/2014 12:18 AM

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of this. Robert looks cool, composed, famous, flawless. I look flushed and fresh, glowing with a quiet euphoria, my face soft with satisfaction and my eyes bright with promise. It is the same look I hope to have on my face when my time on this blue floating orb has ended and I hover before St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. It is a face that subtly exclaims, “Finally! I made it.”

Who would have guessed that the next 10 years would bring me not one but two divorces, one bout with cancer, and a ratio of approximately one court case for every 30 employees who left the show, never to return? Had you told me all of this on the night of that fateful picture with Bobby D, I would have taken a sip of whiskey, looked you squarely in the eyes, and said, “Are you crazy?”

--End of sample--!

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Editor 12/9/2014 12:06 AM

Comment [3]:

In keeping with the Robert De Niro motif of these first few paragraphs, it would probably be more apropos to say, "Are you talking to me?"